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Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transfer of a call connection connecting a telecommunications base station and a mobile user terminal between dedicated channels in both directions therebetween and shared channels in both directions therebetween, comprising:

determining the amount of data buffered at the base station and the user terminal for transmission therebetween and/or the rate that data arrives at the base station and the user terminal for transmission therebetween;

determining a value of a measured parameter of the signals between the base station and the user terminal, the parameter being signal attenuation or propagation delay; and

determining whether or not the shared channels are in a mode in which an acknowledgement of receipt is required to be received back before data is assumed to have been correctly received;

deciding to make the transfer, dependent upon said value and upon said amount or rate, and upon said mode.

2. (Original) A method of transfer of a call connection according to claim 1, in which for a shared channel call connection, upon the parameter value being determined as being less than a predetermined threshold, transfer is made to dedicated channels.

3. (Original) A method of transfer of a call connection according to claim 1 or claim 2, in which for a dedicated channel call connection, upon the parameter value being determined as being more than a predetermined threshold, transfer is made to shared channels.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) A method of transfer of a call connection according to claim 1, in which the shared channels are a Random Access Channel (RACH) and a Forward Access Channel (FACH), the base station comprises a radio network

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controller, and the base station and user terminal operate to transfer the call connection in accordance with the Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) standard.

6. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system comprising a base station and a mobile user terminal, the base station and the user terminal being in use in call connection over dedicated channels or shared channels,

the base station comprising decision means, a channel allocator, and a processor,

the decision means being operative to control transfer of the call connection by the channel allocator between the dedicated channels and the shared channels dependent upon:

a first input signal to the decision means indicating the amount of data buffered at the base station and the user terminal for transmission therebetween and/or the rate that data arrives at the base station and the user terminal for transmission therebetween;

a second input signal to the decision means indicating the value of a measured parameter of the signals between the base station and the user terminal, the parameter being signal attenuation or propagation delay, the parameter value being determined by the processor; and

a third input signal to the decision means indicating whether or not the shared channels are in a mode in which an acknowledgement of receipt is required to be received back before data is assumed to have been correctly received.

7. (Original) A telecommunications system according to claim 6, in which in use, for a shared channel call connection, upon the parameter value being determined as being less than a predetermined threshold, transfer is made to dedicated channels.

8. (Original) A telecommunications system according to claim 6, in which in use, for a dedicated channel call connection, upon the parameter value being determined as being more than a predetermined threshold, transfer is made to shared channels.

9. (Canceled)

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10. (Original) A telecommunications system according to claim 6, in which the shared channels are a Random Access Channel (RACH) and a Forward Access Channel (FACH), the base station comprises a radio network controller and Node B, and the base station and user terminal operate to transfer the call connection in accordance with the Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) standard.

11. (Previously Presented) A radio network controller comprising decision means, a channel allocator, and a determinator, the decision means adapted to control transfer of a call connection via the channel allocator between dedicated channels and shared channels dependent upon:
a first input signal indicating an amount of data buffered for transmission, a rate that data arrives for transmission, or both the amount of data buffered for transmission and the rate that data arrives for transmission;
a second input signal indicating a value of a parameter, the parameter being signal attenuation or propagation delay of transmitted signals, the value of the parameter being determined by the determinator; and
a third input signal indicating whether or not the shared channels operate in a mode in which an acknowledgement of receipt is required to be received back before data is assumed to have been correctly received.

12. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller according to claim 11, in which, for a shared channel call connection, upon the value of the parameter being determined as being less than a predetermined threshold, the channel allocator indicates transfer is to be made to dedicated channels.

13. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller according to claim 11, in which, for a dedicated channel call connection, upon the value of the parameter being determined as being more than a predetermined threshold, the channel allocator indicates transfer is to be made to shared channels.

14. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller according to claim 11, in which the shared channels are a Random Access Channel (RACH) and a

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Forward Access Channel (FACH).

15. (Previously Presented) The radio network controller according to claim 11, further comprising:

a Node B, the Node B responsive to the channel allocator to transfer the call connection between dedicated channels and shared channels.

16 (Previously Presented) The radio network controller according to claim 11 wherein the call connection is transferred in accordance with the Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) standard.